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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It all depends upon the nature of the soil. Borings have been successful in red soil, but they have not always been quite successful in black cotton soil."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the need for adequate water for irrigation and drinking, will the Government ask the Commissioner of Food Production whether the number of boring sets are enough and arrange for more sets if there is greater demand? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" So far as I know, the Commissioner of Food Production has not taken up the construction of bore-wells. We are concentrating more on repair and restoration of minor irrigation sources and we have enough work under that scheme. Anyway, the suggestion will be placed before the Commissioner for Food Production, and more boring sets will be made available if necessary."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Have the Government conducted any investigation for ascertaining whether the sets will be useful in all districts? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I should have notice of this question."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" In the district of Bellary from which the Hon. Minister hails, have these borings been successful in providing drinking water and water for irrigating at least a few acres? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The hon. Member also hails from the same district and I do not know what more information he can get from me than what he knows."

Distribution of semolina.

* 70 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI (on behalf of Sri M. Narayana Rao) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of semolina that has been distributed in the various districts in this Province for sale, the quantity that has been sold, the quantity that has been condemned as unfit for consumption and the cost of the same; and

(*b*) the price at which the semolina is issued and whether the said price is considered comparatively high?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" (*a*) The answer to this question and to the first part of clause (*b*) of the question are placed [a] on the table of the House.

" (*b*) It cannot be said that the issue price of semolina fixed by the Government is high as the price has to be fixed with reference to the actual supply price charged by the Government of India plus incidentals. As the Government of India

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 811–812 infra.

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have since reduced the price of semolina to Re. 0–5–6 per lb. this Government also have likewise reduced the price to Re. 0–5–6 per lb. f.o.r. Madras."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Has the Hon. Minister issued instructions to the Food Committees to sell semolina immediately on receipt instead of keeping in store and allowing it to get spoiled? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Instructions have already been issued to District Collectors to destroy stocks which are unfit for human consumption."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Will the Government ascertain the nutritional value of semolina? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" It has long been with us and it is already known not only to the Government but also to the public."

JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Have the Government received complaints about the deterioration of semolina? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" The statement placed on the table gives the quantities condemned as unfit for human consumption in the different districts of the Province. Recently the Collectors have been reminded to look into complaints immediately and destroy stocks unfit for human consumption."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Why is not semolina included in compulsory ration? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" It forms part of ration but everybody cannot be compelled to take it."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" If semolina is intended for the poor, how do the Government differentiate the poor from the rich and issue it to the poor only? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" Its sale is not confined to any particular class. It forms part of the ration of all classes."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" If semolina has nutritional value, why do not the Government compel everybody to take it? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" It is not possible to compel everybody to take it. Only recently we have made the purchase of one unit of wheat compulsory to popularize consumption of wheat."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" If it is part of ration, where is the need for reducing its price? "

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" We are getting semolina from the Government of India. That Government have reduced the price and we have followed suit."